

Message Text

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AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL OPORTO UNN

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA UNN

CINCLANT

CINCEUR

USMISSION NATO

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C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 2274

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, PO, PU, MZ

SUBJ: STATUS OF PORTUGUESE-PAIGC NEGOTIATIONS

SUMMARY: ACCORDING TO JORGE CAMPINOS, MEMBER FONMIN'S

PERSONAL STAFF, ISSUES OF CAPE VERDES AND REFERENDUM

STILL SEPARATE PORTUGUESE AND PAIGC DELEGATIONS AT

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LONDON TALKS. COMPROMISE SEPARATING GUINEA BISSAU

AND CAPE VERDE ISSUES IS IN VIEW. CAMPINOS SAID PAIGC MIGHT ACCEPT REFERENDUM FOR CAPE VERDES, WHILE ADAMANTLY OPPOSING SAME FOR G-B. GOP HOPING SUCH AN ARRANGEMENT WILL NOT SET PRECEDENT FOR MOZAMBIQUE. GOP EXPECTING PRLONGED NEGOTIATIONS ON ANGOLA AND MOZAMBIQUE, ENABLING ELECTED PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT TO DEAL WITH REFERENDA IN THESE TERRITORIES IN YEAR'S TIME. END SUMMARY.

1. IN CONVERSATION WITH S/P MEMBER HERBERT SPIRO AND EMBOFF JUNE 3, PROF. JORGE CAMPINOS, CLOSE ASSOCIATE OF FONMIN SOARES AND A MEMBER OF THE GOP NEGOTIATING TEAM IN LONDON, PROVIDED SOME DETAILS ON PRESENT STATUS OF NEGOTIATIONS. PORTUGUESE SIDE HAS BEEN FIRM IN SEPARATING CAPE VERDES FROM GUINEA-BISSAU, KEEPING TALKS FOCUSSED ON LATTER. PAIGC HAS ACCEPTED THIS SEPARATION ON THE GROUNDS THAT THEY ARE NEGOTIATING GUINEA-BISSAU ISSUE AS REPS OF REPUBLIC OF GUINEA-BISSAU WHOSE CONSTITUTION, ON BASIS OF WHICH RECOGNITION HAS BEEN GRANTED BY 84 COUNTRIES, COVERS ONLY GUINEA-BISSAU, NOT CAPE VERDES. THEY ARE RESERVING THEIR POSITION ON CAPE VERDES, HOWEVER, WHICH FALLS WITHIN THEIR COMPETENCE AS REPS OF THE POLITICAL PARTY PAIGC.

2. PORTUGUESE ARE ALSO FIRM IN INSISTENCE THAT ACT OF SELF-DETERMINATION VIA REFERENDUM MUST TAKE PLACE IN CAPE VERDES. PAIGC IS EQUALLY FIRM IN INSISTING THAT REFERENDUM SHOULD NOT TAKE PLACE IN GUINEA-BISSAU. CAMPINOS INDICATED THAT STRONG SUPPORT FOR REPUBLIC OF GUINEA-BISSAU IN UN, OAU, NORDIC COUNTRIES, ETCM, AND THE FACT OF RECOGNITION BY 84 COUNTRIES WERE REALITIES WHICH PORTUGAL COULD NOT IGNORE. HE INDICATED GOP DISPOSED TO CONCEDE ON THIS POINT WHILE PAIGC DISPOSED ACCEPT REFERENDUM ON CAPE VERDES. GOP RECOGNIZES THAT LACK OF REFERENDUM IN GUINEA-BISSAU COULD SET DANGEROUS PRECEDENT FOR MOZAMBIQUE, BUT THEY HOPEFUL OF GAINING ACCEPTANCE FOR CONSIDERATION OF GUINEA-BISSAU AS SPECIAL CASE. PORTUGUESE HAVE SO FAR REFUSED RECOGNIZE REPUBLIC OF GUINEA-BISSAU AS DEMANDED BY PAIGC DELEGATION. THEY PLAN INDICATE TO PAIGC DEL THAT PORTUGAL DISPOSED RECOGNIZE AFTER SUCCESSFUL
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COMPLETION OF SERIES OF STEPS, WHICH HE DID NOT DEFINE. HE INDICATED THIS PROCESS LIKELY TAKE SEVERAL MONTHS BUT SHOULD BE COMPLETED WELL BEFORE ELECTIONS IN PORTUGAL. HE HOPED THAT SOLUTION TO GUINEA-BISSAU PROBLEM WOULD PROVE GOP GOOD INTENTIONS AND BUY TIME FOR MOZAMBIQUE AND ANGOLA. PORTUGUESE STRATEGY IN MOZAMBIQUE AND ANGOLA IS TO STRETCH OUT THE PROCESS AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE. ONLY AFTER A NEW PERMANENT

GOVERNMENT, HAVING MANDATE FROM PORTUGUESE PEOPLE, IS
INSTALLED IN PORTUGAL IN A YEAR'S TIME WILL GOP PROCEED
WITH WORKING OUT OF TECHNICAL DETAILS FOR REFERENDA IN
THE TWO LARGER COLONIES.

3. CAMPINOS STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF CORDIALITY BETWEEN
PAIGC AND GOP DELS AND EXPRESSED HOPE SAME CORDIALITY
WOULD PERSIST IN GOP TALKS WITH OTHER LIBERATION GROUP
REPS (THOUGH HE EXPECTED FRELIMO TO BE A TOUGHER
CUSTOMER THAN PAIGC). HE CONTRASTED TOTAL LACK OF
DISTRUST BETWEEN TWO DELS WITH ATMOSPHERE IN EVIAN TALKS
BETWEEN ALGERIANS AND FRENCH, WHERE MUTUAL SUSPICION AND
DISTRUST LASTED THROUGHOUT NEGOTIATIONS AND THEREAFTER.
HE ENCOURAGED BY ATMOSPHERE IN LONDON TO HOPE THAT,
IN CONTRAST FRENCH ACCORDS WITH ALGERIANS, AGREEMENTS
REACHED BY PORTUGUESE WITH PORTUGUESE AFRICANS WOULD
LAST.

4. COMMENT: WE SUSPECT THAT SOARES MAY BE HAVING SOME
DIFFICULTY CONVINCING SPINOLA ON NEED ABANDON REFERENDUM
IN GUINEA-BISSAU, WHICH SPINOLA IS REPORTED AS FEELING
WOULD GO IN FAVOR OF HIS FEDERATION PROPOSAL.
CONCEIVABLY SOARES MAY BE TRYING SELL SPINOLA, AND LATER
FRELIMO, IDEA THAT STEPS TO BE COMPLETED PRIOR GOP
RECOGNITION GOVERNMENT OF GUINEA-BISSAU TANTAMOUNT
TO ACT OF SELF-DETERMINATION. WE SUSPECT SOARES MAY
BE OVERESTIMATING HIS ABILITY CONVINCE FRELIMO THAT
GUINEA-BISSAU IS SPECIAL CASE WHOSE SOLUTION
INAPPLICABLE TO MOZAMBIQUE. POSSIBLY HIS TRIP TO
LUSAKA SCHEDULED FOR JUNE 5 IS ATTEMPT SELL THIS IDEA
TO FRELIMO WHOSE ACCEPTANCE MAY BE CONDITIONFOR
SPINOLA AGREEMENT TO DROP REFERENDUM IN GUINEA-BISSAU. SCOTT

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